

REMARKS

Claims 7, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 25 are amended, claims 9, 26, and 29-30 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-8, 10-25, and 27-28 are now pending in the application.

No new matter has been added through the amendments to claims 7, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 25. Claims 7, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 25 have been amended merely to incorporate subject matter from existing dependent claims into claims 7, 10, 14, 18, 22, and 25.

Allowed Claims

Claims 1-6 were allowed. Applicant respectfully acknowledges the allowance of claims 1-6.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 9, 26, and 29-30 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The allowable subject matter from claim 9 has been added to independent claim 7, from which claim 9 previously depended. Claim 9 is now canceled.

The allowable subject matter from claim 26 has been added to independent claim 25, from which claim 26 previously depended. Claim 26 is now canceled.

The allowable subject matter from claim 29 has been added to independent claim 10, from which claim 29 previously depended. Claim 29 is now canceled.

The allowable subject matter from claim 30 has been added to independent claim 14, from which claim 30 previously depended. Claim 30 is now canceled.

Therefore, while claims 9, 26, and 29-30 have not been rewritten in independent form, the allowable subject matter from claims 9, 26, 29, and 30 has been incorporated into independent claims 7, 25, 10, and 14 respectively, and so Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 7, 25, 10, and 14 are now allowable.

Claims 8, 11-13, 15-17, and 27-28 depend from one of independent claims 7, 10, 14, and 25, and so include all of the subject matter included in the independent claim from which they

depend, and more. For at least the reasons stated above with respect to independent claims 7, 10, 14, and 25, claims 8, 11-13, 15-17, and 27-28 are also allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of, and a notification of allowance of, claims 7-8, 10-17, 25, and 27-28.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 7-8, 10-25, and 27-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Whetsel (U.S. 6,763,485). Applicant does not admit that Whetsel is prior art, and reserves the right, as provided for under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, to "swear behind" Whetsel at a later date.

As noted above, Applicant has amended independent claims 7, 10, 14, and 25 to include subject matter indicated in the Final Office Action as allowable. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 7, 10, 14, and 25 are allowable.

Further, independent claim 18 has been amended to include the subject matter of now canceled but allowable claim 29, wherein independent claim 18 now includes "wherein the first and second means are external to the integrated circuit."

In addition, independent claim 22 has been amended to include the subject matter of now canceled but allowable claim 30, wherein independent claim 22 now includes, "wherein the first TAP control device and the first multiplexer are external to the integrated circuit."

Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 18 and 22, as now amended, are allowable. Further, claims 19-21 and 23-24 depend from one of independent claims 18 and 22, and so include all of the subject matter included in the independent claim from which they depend, and more. For at least the reasons stated above with respect to independent claims 10 and 14, independent claims 18 and 22 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection, and allowance of all claims now pending in the application.

Reservation of Rights

In the interest of clarity and brevity, Applicant may not have addressed every assertion made in the Office Action. Applicant's silence regarding any such assertion does not constitute any admission or acquiescence. Applicant reserves all rights not exercised in connection with

this response, such as the right to challenge or rebut any tacit or explicit characterization of any reference or of any of the present claims, the right to challenge or rebut any asserted factual or legal basis of any of the rejections, the right to swear behind any cited reference such as provided under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, or the right to assert co-ownership of any cited reference. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited references or any other references of record are relevant to the present claims, or that they constitute prior art. To the extent that any rejection or assertion is based upon the Examiner's personal knowledge, rather than any objective evidence of record as manifested by a cited prior art reference, Applicant timely objects to such reliance on Official Notice, and reserves all rights to request that the Examiner provide a reference or affidavit in support of such assertion, as required by MPEP § 2144.03. Applicant reserves all rights to pursue any cancelled claims in a subsequent patent application claiming the benefit of priority of the present patent application, and to request rejoinder of any withdrawn claim, as required by MPEP § 821.04.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 371-2132 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date JULY 2/2007

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 2nd day of July 2007.

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